

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING**

**PROJECT SUMMARY**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Renewable Energy Ordinance (Ordinance)

**REQUEST:** 1) Adopt Advance Planning No. 2014-00004-(1-5);  
2) Certify the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Project - Environmental Assessment No. 2014-00096-(1-5), and adopt the Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

**LOCATION:** Unincorporated Los Angeles County

**STAFF CONTACT:** Jay Lee (213) 974-6476

**RPC HEARING DATES:** March 18, 2015, April 8, 2015, and April 22, 2015

**RPC RECOMMENDATION:** Board public hearing to consider adoption of the proposed Renewable Energy Ordinance and certification of the Final EIR for the Project.

**MEMBERS VOTING AYE:** Commissioners Modugno, Valadez, Louie and Pedersen

**MEMBERS VOTING NAY:** None

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Commissioner Pincetti

**MEMBERS ABSTAINING:** None

**KEY ISSUES:**

- The Ordinance's impact on the future development and regulation of utility-scale projects
- Cumulative impacts associated with utility-scale projects
- Adequacy of standards in addressing environmental and community concerns including water use, dust control, aesthetics, safety, biota impacts, and other concerns
- Conversion of small-scale projects to utility-scale projects in residential areas

**MAJOR POINTS FOR:**

- Provides clarity to Department of Regional Planning staff, applicants, and the public regarding the processing of solar and wind energy projects
- Achieves a balance between supporting California's

renewable energy policy and minimizing associated environmental impacts

- Prioritizes and streamlines small-scale and structure-mounted projects, which have the least impacts on the environment and surrounding communities
- Better regulates utility-scale projects with development standards, which do not exist in the current County Code
- Guides development of utility-scale projects into appropriate areas and away from areas that are environmentally sensitive, or have safety hazards and other constraints
- Extensive community outreach has been conducted in development of the Ordinance

**MAJOR POINTS  
AGAINST:**

- Greater regulation of solar and wind energy projects may discourage renewable energy development
- The Ordinance is countywide, and therefore only establishes baseline regulations for utility-scale projects that are not property-specific
- The Ordinance may encourage utility-scale projects in residential or rural areas where none or few exist, or result in unpermitted conversions from small-scale to utility-scale